

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

August 15, 2002

RQ-3

Earl Scales, Treasurer
Democratic Executive Committee of Florida
517 N. Calhoun Street, Box 1758
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Identification Number: C00005561

Reference: Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report (7/10/01-9/26/01), dated 1/29/02

Dear Mr. Scales:

This letter is to inform you that as of August 14, 2002, the Commission has not received your response to our request for additional information, dated July 24, 2002. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to this request (copy enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by September 4, 2002. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Eric Koeppen on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson

Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division



## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

RQ-2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Earl Scales, Treasurer
Democratic Executive Committee of Florida
517 N. Calhoun Street, Box 1758
Tallahassee, FL 32302

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Identification Number:

C00005561

Reference:

Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report (7/10/01-9/26/01), dated 1/29/02

Dear Mr. Scales:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 11(c), 11(d), 12, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b), 21(c), 30, and 31, Column B of the Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your 4/26/02, Amended 30 Day Post Special Report. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-Your calculations for Line 7, Column B appear to be incorrect. FEC calculations disclose this amount(s) to be \$2,327,273.70. Please provide the corrected total(s) on the Summary Page.

-Your calculations for Line 8 appear to be incorrect. Cash-on-hand at the close of the current reporting period should always equal the closing calendar year-to-date cash-on-hand amount. Please provide the corrected total on the Summary Page.

## DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FLORIDA PAGE 2

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (1! CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

## DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FLORIDA PAGE 3

-Your MEMO Schedule A discloses a receipt totaling \$49,145 from "ASDC/Dollars for Democrats", which is a joint fundraising committee affiliated with your committee. Please be advised that a memo Schedule A should itemize each individual who has contributed an aggregate in excess of \$200 during the calendar year. Please clarify whether any individual contribution aggregated over \$200 for the reporting period or if this represents a total of all the unitemized receipts from the joint fundraiser.

-Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) and 15 of the Detailed Summary Page disclose a refund(s) or rebate(s) of what appears to be a previously disclosed allocable expense(s) from "People's First Community Bank" and "Quill Corporation". Please be advised that when a committee receives a refund or rebate of an allocable expense, it must be allocated between the federal and non-federal accounts according to the same allocation ratio used to allocate the original disbursement. Furthermore, the federal account must transfer the non-federal portion to the non-federal account and disclose this transfer-out on Schedule H4. Your report does not appear to disclose a transfer-out of the non-federal portion of this refund(s) or rebate(s). Please provide clarification regarding this apparent omission.

On Schedule H2, you have failed to check the Type of Activity box for the activity/event "A009". Please amend your report to correct this omission. 11 CFR §104.10(a)(1)

-Your EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE calculations for Administrative/Voter Drive are incorrect. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for administrative and voter drive costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for the whole Administrative/Voter Drive category. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for fundraising, direct candidate support, and exempt activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total for that category or event. This running EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals.

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Fundraising", "NSF", and "Supplies". For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

## DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FLORIDA PAGE 4

-Please amend your report by providing the purpose for each disbursement itemized on Schedule(s) H4 supporting Line(s) 21(a).

Schedule H4 of your report discloses an apparent contribution to 'Democratic Black Caucus of Florida". Please be advised that contributions to federal committees and/or non-federal committees/organizations do not qualify as shared expenses to be allocated between your federal and non-federal accounts. Contributions to federal committees should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the Detailed Summary Page and contributions to non-federal committees/organizations on a separate Schedule B supporting Line 29. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for any portion of this contribution(s) is not permissible. 11 CFR §102.5(a)(1)(i)

The Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the funds received by your federal account, as reimbursement for the non-federal portion, back to your non-federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Refunds received should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 15 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions contained on the forms to determine the proper categorization when preparing your next filing.

A response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Eile W. Zeppen Erik Koeppen

Reports Analyst Reports Analysis Division